

That this body is an able one, no one will deny. That its members are individually respectable gentlemen will be generally conceded, yet that the people desire its protracted existence, or will look with favor upon any extension of the powers claimed by it, or upon the continued exercise of these powers, is more than doubtful.

What the Convention proposes to do we can hardly say. It is to be hoped that it will do nothing that can be safely avoided. Called into existence by a necessity

show that 14 pieces of the enemy's artillery were brought from the field of battle. Over 25 colors and 3,000 prisoners were captured.

Extract of a Letter to the Editor of the Journal, dated
Kinston, N. C., April 18th, 1862.

No news of interest about here at present. Our pickets are frequently coming in contact with Yankees; five of the soundrels were killed last night.

It is the opinion of some that Burnside is preparing to advance. My own opinion is, that there will be no advance in this direction until a decisive action shall have taken place on the Peninsula; if the Federals are defeated there we may not expect any advance by Burnside.

Up to this time we are blessed with good health in all our camps.

Yours very truly,

We have been asked more than once if Mr. Graham is really a candidate for Governor, or would even consent to be run. We do not know. We heard that during former sessions of the Convention, when the idea of an election by that body was mooted, Mr. Graham positively would not accept, even if chosen. This was on what we supposed to be good authority; it certainly was, so far as the means of information possessed by the gentleman from whom we heard it went. We believe it so.

Mr. Graham is now pushed forward, whether with or without his own consent, we can't say. It cannot be without his own knowledge. *Is he the man, after all that is really meant by the pushers?* We will see if we know our eyes open.

We learn that the conversation there was of a simultaneous attack upon Fort Pulaski and New Orleans. The Federals expected something from their large vessels, but not much from the mortar boats, one of which was some experimental fring at Key West, "shook her self in pieces." It was the understanding there that the Virginia was victualized and supplied with ammunition for a long cruise, and great fears were entertained that she would visit that port. The vessels at Key West were the Niagara, the Mohawk, and two other inferior steamers, and a few transports. A few days before the important left, Captain Campbell, of the Mallory, and four Key West Secessionists, had given the Federal's the slip, leaving in an open boat.

A large majority of the citizens profess to be favorable to the Union cause, and Major Allen's quarters are constantly thronged with those desirous of taking the oath of allegiance. The postmaster and some other citizens have left the city, but the most of them have remained, and are, as far as possible, pursuing their usual occupations. The Confederate Collector of the port attempted to get away, but was pursued and captured. Twenty-one hundred dollars in Confederate currency, which he had received for the duties on the cargoes of the vessels which had run the blockade, was found in his possession. He is now held a prisoner. He is represented as having been one of the most violent Secessionists.

GEN. SHIELDS.—The Lynchburg Republican of Friday, says that a private letter from the Valley to a newspaper in this city, announces with certainty, the death of General Shields, the Federal commander at the battle of Herndon, who, it will be remembered, was badly